

# MILADY TURNS NOW TO THE DAINITY AND USEFUL TUB FROCK

BY ELEANOR HOYT BRAINERD.

**T**ub frocks and the little things that go with them in the achievement of a successful summer toilette loom large on fashion's horizon this month.

It is quite within the possibilities that one may not need to wear such frocks before June or July, but the sensible woman wants to be ready for hot weather when it does come, be the date early or late, and so the high tide of summer frock making and buying comes in May.

Each year the buying elbows the making more strenuously. The manufacturers turn out tub frocks much more satisfactory than the ready-to-wear summer garments of even a season or two ago, and competent seamstresses who will work at moderate prices are now distressingly few. The survivors are usually monopolized by little groups of customers and the outsider who hugs to her heart the tradition of the spring and fall home seamstress session usually experiments discouragingly with incompetent sewing women and ends by turning to the ready-to-wear departments of the shops.

The old objections to the ready-made tub frocks still hold good. One can't wash samples to see whether they will fade. The materials are not likely to have been shrunken and consequently the frocks will need alterations after the first tubbing. The finishing may not be so good as that done by a careful seamstress and in consequence the garments may not wear so well as the home-made frocks, if the latter are well made; but, on the other hand, the home seamstress of today isn't at all sure to finish things carefully, and almost any tub frock will outlive a season, and there's no denying that the ready-made frocks are even when cheap, have more style and originality than the average home-made frock. Why shouldn't they have these characteristics? They are designed by high priced designers, even though they are turned out by the thousands.

If one is willing to pay high prices it is even possible to secure tub frocks against which none of the stock objections can be hurled—frocks not only artistically designed but exquisitely made and finished, and this spring there is rather more than the usual attraction in these dainty models. The new modes lend themselves gracefully to summer materials and the materials lend themselves as gracefully to the modes.

One sees fewer elaborately embroidered hand-made lingerie models than of old. Some of these there are, but more often heavy trimming effects are obtained by clever use of embroidery trimmings and laces and very often a high priced hand-made frock will display no heavy trimming at all, the hand work showing rather in narrow open stitchery, tiny tucks and delicate touches of embroidery about collars, cuffs, buttons, etc.

This tendency has been apparent for many seasons past. French girls do not learn to sew and embroider now as they once did. A very large percentage of them go into the factories and the shops. The Parisian houses famous for their elegant lingerie frocks have complained of increasing scarcity of capable workwomen and the disorganizing effect of the war seems to have interfered still further with the output of hand work, though one would imagine conditions might make more workwomen than usual available for such work and eager to secure it.

An then, last but by no means least, the modes of the moment tend toward daintiness rather than elaboration, line rather than detail.

Some beautiful and modish lingerie frocks there are that depend upon heavy embroidery for part of their effect and maintain a certain conservatism in line. Of this class the two models illustrated in our central group are fairly typical. Their skirts are full but not eccentric or aggressive. Their bodices have the narrow shoulders, the set in sleeves, the accepted collar lines. They are frocks that any gentleman could wear if she could afford to pay the prices, and luckily, much the same effects might be secured at an expense that would be only a fraction of the prices asked in an exclusive Fifth avenue shop for these two models.

The arrangement of the embroidery in each frock is good, and by careful choice, fine embroidery bands and motifs or one of the popular and effective flat laces might be made to take the place of embroidery upon the frock material.

This material, by the way, is a very fine batiste, but sheer linen or very fine cotton voile or organdy could be substituted.

The little cotton dangles that border the three narrow frills of the under petticoat in one of the models have found favor with several of the best French designers, and one sees them

used not only on lingerie frocks but upon lingerie pantsuits. On a pretty parasol was not only bordered by those little balls, but was dotted all over with them, each ball attached by stout thread and just free enough to move with the motion of the parasol.

Irish crochet drops and buttons are much used too, though the lace itself is out of favor, and some of the very narrow Irish edgings too are often seen. All extremely narrow edgings indeed have their places this spring, finishing frills and flounces and folds without actually assuming the importance of trimming. There are more charming beadings and veulings than usual too, and these are greatly used for joining seams, setting in trimmings, separating groups of tucks, etc. Some of the new fine cluny things of this sort are particularly good and there are many fine and dainty lingerie frocks and blouses that have little or no trimmings other than such beadings.

The finest of linen lawn in delicate colors is the material chosen for some of the most charming tub frocks of the simple type, and where the French hand-made frocks are shown one is sure to find many models of this type. The pinks, buffs and pale creamy yellows are especially attractive in these dainty linen lawns, which wear surprisingly well in spite of their gossamer thinness, and a touch of white relieves the delicate color.

Fine stripes in white and color are available in the same fine linen lawn as well as in the heavier grades of handkerchief linen; and these make up very smartly; but the models in plain color when successful are perhaps a trifle more bewitching than the striped ones.

Two fairly typical models of the type, one in plain pink, the other in blue and white stripes, are pictured among our small sketches, but lose much of their charm in black and white drawings.

Both were hand-made and of the sheerest, finest linen lawn. The pink model was of an exquisite shade, very delicate, yet strong enough to contrast well with the touches of relieving white. The full overskirt showed but a mere glimpse of an underskirt slightly narrower and was bordered by a white hem set on with open stitchery for which some one of the fine lace beadings would make a good substitute. The simple, long sleeved bodice showed touches of white hand embroidery in shoulder yokes and in a little vest of white embroidered in pink, and was drawn in very snugly at the normal waist line by a ribbon girdle of pink.

The same model was offered in a delicious, creamy yellow and both were sold almost as soon as shown.

The blue and white fine stripe was quite as simple. It, too, had a very long full overskirt and an underskirt barely visible—a version of the full skirt exceedingly popular and more becoming than the uncompromising full round skirt. The striped overskirt is simply hemmed and untrimmed. The underskirt shows two very narrow frills of white, with the narrowest of roll hems.

The bodice is corded and shirred on the shoulders and has a little high collared vest of white embroidered delicately in blue. The skirt rises above the waist line in several rows of corded shirring, topped by a tiny frill, and a blue ribbon girdle, coming from the back, is knotted low in front.

This sort of girdle, though not new, is much worn and holds down the front skirt fullness enough to make the silhouette from a side view less thick than when the full skirt is not restrained below the waistband.

In many models the skirt fullness is massed on the sides, the front being left almost plain; and in others some sort of panel effect is arranged, as in the batiste frock of our large cut, which has a flat front panel of tiny, full length box plaits. Hip yokes are liked too for front flattening purposes, but are more successful in firm materials than in sheer stuffs.

The finely striped cottons and linens are in many cases self-trimmed, with only a little relieving white about neck and sleeves and perhaps the little white underskirt frill, which is one of the season's successful notes.

Of this self-trimming by transverse use of stripes there are innumerable examples, and one idea is not only to use the bands of stripes running crosswise, but to tuck the bands finely crosswise as well. For this trimming the stripes must not be too close together, but when a narrow colored stripe is set at intervals on a white ground the material may be so tucked that the bands will show almost none of the white and the colored stripes will appear very closely grouped.

An extremely pretty green and white voile which our artist has sketched gained individuality through this treatment of tucked stripes, and though the simplest design was, thanks to its fresh, dainty coloring, the trimming bands and the notes of

Forethought of Sultry Days Makes May the Season for the Selection of Warm Weather Costumes—Many Charming Things to Be Found in the Stores, but the Home Made Frock Is Still in Favor



Two summer frocks of white batiste, hand embroidered and lace trimmed.

black taffeta in girdle and cravat, exceptionally successful.

This model had kimono sleeves in its jacket bodice, and despite the oft repeated assertion that such sleeves are absolutely demode, and the undeniable fact that a vast majority of the new models have set in sleeves, one does find the kimono sleeve surviving in some very good looking frocks.

One model by an American designer which has deservedly met with great success this spring has a kimono sleeve falling in long flowing bell shape, but so cut as to leave no fullness or blouse under the arms. The frock is of white chiffon cloth and absolutely untrimmed except for a wide band of beautiful heavy lace just above the white ribbon girdle.

All of the effect is entrusted to line

and texture. V shaped neck, sleeves, full, irregularly shaped overskirt, narrower underskirt all are simply hemmed on left with selvedge, but the frock has unquestionable distinction and grace, and is in the new mode without being eccentric or over-tourque.

Charming frocks of chiffon cloth as simple as this one, but of a different type, are offered as tub frocks and are really as serviceable as they are dainty. One of these in fresh color has all its edges neatly stitched and is entirely without other trimming save for a ribbon girdle and a prim little corage bouquet of wood violets bunched as tightly as though gathered by some small child.

Somewhat similar in coloring to this ultra-demure frock was a more pretentious, yet youthful model, whose full flounced skirt and sleeves were of fresh colored Georgette crepe, while the sleeveless bodice was of taffeta in a soft, bright blue, very much like that of the wood violets.

The silk coat or over bodice, with skirt and sleeves of sheer stuff, is apparently to have much summer popularity and the idea, when cleverly developed, has delightful possibilities, though it is easy to miss the desired effect and obtain awkwardness rather than picturequeness. The coat or bodice may be either draped to fit snugly and define the waist curves sharply or may take on loose flowing lines. It may end at high waist line, normal waist line, or a little below the waist line and may be finished by a girde, or sharply pointed in front, or cut in little battlements or scallops around the bottom.

This idea of battlement, scalloped or pointed edges is one of the pronounced features of the season's models and one finds irregular edges with binding, puff edging or other simple finish on ruffles, frills, skirt bottoms, etc. The irregular skirt bottom line no longer creates comment, and even the casual observer must recognize the fact that it takes the curse off the full round skirt to a surprising degree—a consummation toward which the designers were working when they launched the idea.

The transparent underpetticoat full or hem is another device to soften the hard line of the full skirt around the ankles, and one New York designer has just put forth the long, full skirt by way of escaping this same problem. This full skirt lies on the floor all around, and on some figures would undoubtedly look better than the ankle

length full skirt or the shorter length by which designers have sought to escape the ankle length ugliness. That the long version is really beautiful one hesitates to affirm. That it is a dust and fern collector of the first magnitude is certain. Whether women will adopt it remains to be seen.

## FOR THE TEA TABLE

**C**OOKIES, jumbles and small cakes are in constant demand on the tea table, and where there are young children in the family two or three find their way

Since most small cakes will keep indefinitely when properly packed in tin cans, it is a good plan to make a good supply of several varieties at the same time. Here are a few interesting recipes that have been tested:

**HENNY PENNIES.**—Melt half a cupful of butter and stir into it one cupful of sugar, one and one-half cupfuls of molasses and three cupfuls of flour that has been sifted. Beat well and drop spoonfuls of the mixture, well apart, on greased cookie pans. Bake in a slow oven and when they are browned remove them with a flat wide knife or pancake turner and lay over a broom handle to cool. These curled dainties look very pretty piled high on a plate.

**BROWNIES.**—The ingredients required for these cookies are three squares of chocolate, two eggs beaten together, half a cup of flour, two cups of sugar, quarter of a cup of butter and one cup of chopped English walnuts. Cream the butter and sugar together and add the eggs well beaten, then beat in the flour. Melt the chocolate by cutting it into small pieces and placing the dish containing the bits over the steam of the kettle. When the chocolate is melted add it to the other ingredients and lastly stir in the chopped nuts. Pour the mixture into a long shallow pan and bake in a thin sheet. Twenty-five minutes will be required. As soon as the pan is removed from the oven mark off in small squares and cut before removing from the pan.

**CINNAMON JUMBLES.**—To half a pound of granulated sugar add one-quarter of a pound of butter and stir to a creamy consistency. Beat three eggs light and add them with a scant half cup of milk. Sift with half a pound of flour, one and one-half teaspoonfuls of baking powder and stir into the other ingredients. Take heaping spoonfuls of the batter, drop them into some powder and cinnamon, roll them around so that some of the cinnamon shall adhere to both sides of the batter. Drop them on greased baking pans, allowing room for them to spread. Bake in a quick oven.

**BOSTON CHAM PRISSES.**—Stir one-quarter of a pound of butter into half a pint of warm water in a saucepan and place it over the fire. Slowly bring to a boil, stirring often. When it reaches the boiling point, put in six ounces of flour, let it boil up once and after taking from the fire stir it occasionally until it is cool. Separate five eggs and put the yolks into the cooled paste, stirring them in one at a time. Beat the whites of the eggs to a froth and fold them in last of all. Butter the mold in which you use a buttered pan, leaving a space for each one to swell. Bake in a hot oven fifteen to twenty minutes.

To make the cream for the filling place over the fire in a double boiler one pint of milk. Moisten two tablespoons of cornstarch with enough cold milk to make a paste and add a pinch of salt and two beaten eggs. Turn this mixture into the milk as soon as it boils and stir all the time until it becomes thick. Remove from the fire, flavor with vanilla and set away to cool. When ready to serve split the puffs on one side and fill them with the custard. If desired whipped cream slightly sweetened may be substituted for the custard.

**HIMY DUMPLINGS.**—Wash and peel of butter until there is no trace of salt in it. Mix with it one and one-half pounds of flour and one-half pound of sugar. Add the yolks of two eggs beaten to a froth and one tablespoonful of brandy. Blanch one-quarter of a pound of almonds and chop them very fine. Add the chopped almonds to the other ingredients. Roll the dough out on a moulding board. When it is thin enough for cookies cut into narrow strips about two inches long. Brush with the white of an egg and sprinkle with sugar, cinnamon and chopped nuts. Bake in a slow oven to a biscuit color.

**MOCK MACARONS.**—Beat the white of one egg until light, but not stiff, and add gradually while beating one cupful of pecan nut meats chopped finely and sprinkled with one quarter teaspoonful of salt. Drop from the end of the spoon one inch apart on a buttered sheet and bake in a moderate oven until they are delicately browned.

**SUGAR BOMBES.**—Weigh one-half pound of powdered sugar and the same quantity of butter and cream in them together. Beat two eggs light and stir into the cream mixture and add

three-quarters of a pound of sifted flour and flavor with lemon or vanilla extract. Sprinkle the moulding board with granulated sugar. Break off pieces of the dough about the size of a walnut. Roll them lightly with the palm of the hand on the sugared board and twist them into rings. Lay them on buttered tins one inch apart. Bake them in a moderate oven.

**HICKORY NUT COOKIES.**—Stir to a cream one cup butter and one and one-half cups sugar. Add two eggs and beat thoroughly. Dissolve one teaspoonful of soda in one cup of sour milk. Add this to the butter, sugar and eggs. Sift three and one-half cups of flour with two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and stir into this one cup of hickory nut meats. Beat well and add one teaspoonful of vanilla. Drop little mounds of the dough on a greased baking tin and bake slowly.

**CRISCOLETS.**—Mix lightly into the stiffly beaten whites of three eggs sufficient grated vanilla chocolate to color and rather strongly flavor them. Add sufficient sifted sugar and fine flour to produce a light workable paste. Shape the biscuits and arrange them on a buttered baking sheet. Bake in a moderate oven.

**SWISS RUSKETS.**—Blanch eight ounces of almonds and cut them into strips. Beat the whites of two eggs to a stiff froth and add ten ounces of lump sugar. Stir into this the almond strips. Mix the paste together thoroughly and then with the fingers shape strips of it into crescents. Allow them to dry for four or five hours and then bake in a slow oven.

## OUT OF WORK ON THE COAST.

**O**WING to the shortsightedness of many hundreds of business girls who thought they might earn their way to the Panama Pacific Exposition at San Francisco this year the Pacific coast is now confronted with a new problem in unemployment. So serious are the conditions of oversupply that the national field committee of the Young Women's Christian Association, on the recommendation of the employment auxiliary, at a recent meeting adopted the following resolution:

"That advice should be sent to all the associations advising girls not to come to the coast seeking employment because the supply far exceeds the demand."

Letters have already been sent to the Governors of all the States and to all the religious papers urging them to warn girls not to go to the coast seeking employment. In response to this appeal the New York city branches are impressing upon the members and friends through posters and talks the futility of a trip to the coast without funds.

The following quotation from the report of the special association work on the coast, the exposition grounds indicates the conditions that exist:

"Since the opening of the exposition in San Francisco 112 girls have come to the Young Women's Christian Association Building on the grounds, having lost their positions. Many of the few positions available on the grounds demand such special qualifications that the majority of girls applying for them cannot secure them. For instance, for a demonstrator one must be a girl five feet seven inches in height and would not engage her unless she was slight, saying that if she were not so she would when tired stand first on one foot and then on the other, which would not do."

One girl who in Illinois had received \$116 a month was only too glad to secure a position bringing her \$12 a week. The impression seems to have gone abroad that the openings for work are limitless, when in reality most of the positions were filled with the exposition employees.

The real picture of the case lies in the fact that so many girls who are unemployed and unable to hold a good position when they get it have come to San Francisco expecting to make enough money to see the exposition. Some of the young women have been on such short rations because of lack of funds that physical emaciation have arisen which have demanded medical aid, and in other cases they have got so anemic that they are unable to hold a good position when we send them to work.



A green striped gingham, a blue striped voile and a pink handkerchief linen.



White chiffon and lace.

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